Decrease in the population of wild animals

4576. SHRI MATANG SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the population of wild animals has tremendously decreased as per the recent study conducted by the Forest Department and if so, what are the details thereof in respect of each animal and the names of each Forest areas in the States alongwith the present population of wild animals;

(b) what steps Government have taken to protect the wild animals during the last three years and with what result; and

(c) what are the future programmes in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The State Governments have not reported any overall decline in the population of wild animals to this Ministry except for that of tiger where some decline has been reported as per recent census. The State-wise and Tiger Reserve-wise figures of tiger population for the year 1989 and 1993 are placed at the enclosed statement I and II, (*see* below).

(b) and (c) The main thrust of the Government activities with respect to wildlife management is on conservation of self-sustaining viable population of wild species in their own natural habitat. The major steps taken by the Government in this regard are listed in enclosed statement III (*see* below).

Besides this, Special measures have been taken to protect the tiger which include :

(i) A Tiger Crisis Cell has been set up in the Ministry to collect and collate information on tiger and suggest corrective measures.

(ii) State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling around the protected areas.

(iii) Action has been taken for setting up of special strike force in each tiger reserve for tackling the problems of poaching.

Statement-I

ALL INDIA TIGER CENSUS, 1993

The details alongwith the Census figures of 1989 are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1993	1989
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197	235
2.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
3.	Goa	3	2
4.	Bihar	137	157
5.	Mizoram	28	18
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
7.	Orissa	226	243
8.	Rajasthan	64	99
9.	Gujarat	5	9
10.	Maharahtra	276	417
11.	Karnataka	305	257
12.	Haryana	Nil	Nil
13.	Meghalaya	63	34

1	2	3	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	465	735
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	256	135
16.	Madhya Pradesh	912	985
17.	Kerala	57	45
18.	Tamil Nadu	97	95
19.	West Bengal	335	353
20.	Assam*	338	376
21.	Tripura	Nil	Nil
22.	Nagaland*	94	104
23.	Sikkim	2	4
		3860**	4334

* Census figures not received. Hence the figures shown. discounted by 10% over 1989 figures.

** As per analysis carried out by expert Committee of the members of Steering Committee of Project Tiger, the Final figure is taken as3750 as an total estimated of All India Tiger Census instead of 3860.

Statement-II

TIGER CENSUS 1993 IN VARIOUS TIGER RESERVES

The details alongwith the Census figures of various Tiger Reserves are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	1989	1993
1.	Bandipur	50	66
2.	Corbett	91	123
3.	Kanha	97	100
4.	Manas	92	81
5.	Melghat	77	72
6.	Palamau	55	44
7.	Ranthambhore	44	36
8.	Simlipal	93	95
9.	Sunderbans	269	251
10.	Periyar	45	30
11.	Sariska	19	24
12.	Buxa	33	29
13.	Indravati	28	18
14.	Nagarjunsagar	94	51
15.	Namdapha	47	47
16.	Dudhwa	90	94*
17.	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	22	17
18.	Valmiki	81	49
19.	Pench	N.A.	39
	TOTAL	1327	1266

NA = Not Available

* Including Kishanpur Sanctuary.

Statement-III

The steps taken by the Government to protect the endangered wila animals include.

i. Hunting of Scheduled wild animals has been banned by law.

ii. Central assistance is provided to State/UT Govts. for strengthening anti-poaching infrastructure.

iii. Special schemes for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos and their habitat is being implemented.

iv. Raids are carried out by the Wildlife Authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild animals reaches them.

v. A network of Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Govt. for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

vi. International trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

vii. Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

viii. Cooperation of Police, Border Security Force, Coast Guard and Army is also taken in apprehending the poachers and illegal traders.

ix. There is a scheme for payment of reward to the informers, which among other things, helps in getting intelligence regarding smuggling of wildlife products.

x. A scheme of eco-developent has also been launched to reduce the biotic pressure on the area and winning over the support of local people to the aspect of wildlife conservation.

Measures to protect 'Parrots'

4577. SYED SIBETEY RAZI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to certain reports in some columns of Press which appeared on the 27th March, 1994 indicating extinction of "Talking Parrots" from its natural habitat in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some measures to ensure protection of this rare species of parrots popularly known as 'Hirman Tota'; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is true that 'Talking Parrots' are found in Gargon fort and neighbouring areas of Jhalwar Distt. (Rajasthan) and adjoining Districts as well, but is not on the verge of extinction.

(c) and (d) The Government has included this species in Schedule-IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and killing of this species banned under the Act.